HBIGL
a'9'41

App F IX-4

1938-39
(Mung)

File No. 294-
Serial Nos. 1 — 3

Previous References
15ᵖ 36 4
119-32 S

Letter References
Mung 294.38-(4-8)
Cmuly Sch 156 of 43.

PRESERVED

GENERAL AND REVENUE SECRETARIAT.

Serial Nos. 1 - 3

Part B for March 1939

SUBJECT.

Harijan entry into the Temples at Belur and Sravanabelagola

Govt order No 1532-1603 dated 23.3.39
Hon

WD 0295—GFB—22,500—13 8 37

Deputy Harijans to go upto the limits upto
Non-Hindus are at present allowed in the above
temples

be written on this margin.)

GENERAL OFFICE
244
29 AUG. 1938

1 Mug 294-38-1

OFFICE OF THE
FIRST MEMBER OF COUNCIL

NOTE

Dated 27th August *193*8.

Please put up the file re. the entry of Harijans upto the portion where non-Hindus are permitted to go in the Belur Temple.

General Secretary
with compliments.

Sd/-
27/8

Mus Secy xxx 2nd 27/8/38
Ln
28/8

K The two collection Mug 150-36-4 and
J 150-36-15 relating to the subject are
submitted. Attention is invited
28/8 to the orders of the First member
K contained in para 61 of the
notes in file No. Mug. 150-36,
serial 4 directing that the
question referred to above may
be dealt with along with the
general question of admission
of Harijans
into temples. Attention is
also invited to the orders of the First
member on this general ques-
tion contained in para 29 of
the notes in file No. Mug 150

Admission of Harijans into the temple at Belur up to the limits to which non-Hindus are allowed (2

7411 D.396/L.C.

General and Revenue Secretariat — File No. — of 193 — [App. F. III–2

Serial No.

E & F

13, 14 and 15 and the Speeches of the Mysrai Comr. and the first member on the general question when a resolution on the subject was moved in the Legislative Council in January 1937.

29.8.38.

GENERAL SECRETARY. 29 AUG. 1938

(Secy)

The files are subt-

29/8

(First Member)

2336, -30/4

There was some discussion on this at the last meeting of the L.C. on 2 June 38 Please put up the abstract re this

30/8

To the L.C. Office for kindly putting up the abstract

1/9/38

Extract from the L.C. Proceedings is put up

2.9.38

2.9

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY 2 SEPT 1938 REPRESENTATIVE ASSEMBLY AND LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

NOTE—Contn. Sheet.

File No. D. 396/D.A. of 193

General and Revenue Secretariat

Serial No. R

Extract from the L.C. proceedings (June 1938) is putup, as directed in para 6 supra 10

2.9.38.

2 & 7
3/9.

12

3/9

13. If approved the orders of the Member will be communicated to L.C. Office with reference to the promise made by Govt at the L.C (June 1938)

6/9 7.9.38.

14

2/9/-

2/9/-

To the L.C. Office for note and return to the file

9/9 9.9.38. 16 The statement made by the First Member at the last Session of the L.C will as noted above, be treated as a promise.

Action taken may be communicated in due course.

10/9

GENERAL SECRETARIAT
7 SEP 38
1461
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

Harijan Temple entry - Below remarks.

General and Revenue Secretariat | File No | of 193 | [App F. III–2

Serial No.

17 It will be seen by a reference to the last para of the extract of the proceedings of the Legislative Council relating to the subject referred above that a promise to consider the question was made by Govt. in the Legislative Council. The Hon'ble Minister's orders in this matter are found on page 3 of the notes. It is a point for orders whether the file has to be submitted again for orders as suggested by the Secretary, R.A. and L.C.

10.9.38.

18 For orders if any further action is to be taken in this case. At the 2C session Hon'ble Member was pleased to say that opinion was divided but the matter is to be considered

9/9/38

19 I think the general trend of opinion was that the permission may be given to

NOTE—Contn. Sheet.

Harijan (Temple) Entry into Belur Temple

File No. of 1938.

General and Revenue Secretariat

Serial No.

4658

the Harijan to go up to the portion where Non-Hindus are now permitted to go This may be made applicable to the Belur & Sravana Belagola temples too

Council matter

22/12/38

23/12

Dewan;

26-12-38

Certified

Submitted that he should read a Note in a Council matter

27.12.38

Submitted

Signed

29/12

For Disposal by Circulation. **No. C. 24**

.....27.193?

GENERAL AND REVENUE SECRETARIAT.

Council Matter.

Subject

Admission of Harijans into the temples at Belur and Sravanabelagola upto the portion where Non-Hindus are permitted to go.

Circulated to the Members of Council.

By Order,

M Visvesvaraya

28th December 1938. *Chief Secretary to Government.*

23
5244
29/12 **First Member of Council.**

30/12/38

6084
31/12 **Second Member of Council.**

3.1.29

Gen. Secy. with Compliments

3/1/39

4 8/1

Serial No.

26 A D.F.N's Subd. The Sivaramakrishna Ahmed are all joint temples. The agitation is about the entry of Harijans to their temples. Whether the joint temples should be thrown open to Harijans is for consideration

7/1/39.

Hon 2nd Member 10/1/39

OFFICE SECOND MEMBE 11 JAN 1939 No. 6384

27 See Flag T.

The discussion relates to both the temples & the decision taken applies to both of them

KCL 12.1

Ley 16.1.39

Signed F note is placed on the file

Ley 19/1/39

19.1.39

SECOND MEMBE 16 JAN 1939 No 6526(a)

NOTE Contn. Sheet.

Final Note by the Second Member of Council.

Subject.— Admission of Harijans into the temple of Sri Chennakeshavaswami at Belur and the temple of Sri Gomateswara at Sravanabelagola.

These papers relate to the question of admission of Harijans into the temples of Sri Chennakeshavaswami at Belur and Sri Gomateswara at Sravanabelagola in the Hassan District.

The question of admission of Harijans into temples is being urged on Government for a few years past in the Representative Assembly and Legislative Council. When the subject was discussed in the Legislative Council in July 1935 in connection with a cut motion, it was observed that, while Government were generally in entire sympathy with the request, they would try to enforce it as far as it lies in their power. The question was again brought before the Legislative Council in June 1938 that the ban on the admission of Harijans to the Belur and Sravanabelagola temples, at least up to the extent to which Non-Hindus are allowed to go, may be removed. On behalf of Government, a reply was given that there was some difference of opinion and that the Government would consider the matter.

So far as the Sri Chennakeshavaswami temple at Belur is concerned, Non-Hindus are permitted to go up to Dwajasthambha while Harijans are allowed to enter the temple for three days only during jatra time up to the Navaranga and samprokshana is performed thereafter before the usual worship is resumed. The Agamiks of the Muzrai Commissioner's Office who were consulted in the matter by the Muzrai Commissioner have stated that it is nowhere said that non-Hindus

(10

may enter temples consecrated according to Agama - Shastras and that it is only laid down that Maha-samprokshane should be performed if Antyajas (Harijans) enter such temples. As a matter of mamool, Non-Hindus are being allowed to enter the outer enclosure of the temple and the devotees have also generally acquiesced in this long-standing practice. In these circumstances the Muzrai Commissioner was of the opinion that - Harijans might be permitted to enter the temple at Belur up to the point to which Non-Hindus are at - present allowed.

When the papers were submitted to the then First Member of Council (Rajamantrapravina S.P. Rajagopalachari, B.A., B.L.,) he was pleased to minute as follows on the 22nd December 1938:-

" I think the general trend of opinion was that permission may be given to the Harijans to go up to the portion where Non-Hindus are now permitted to go (i.e., up to the Mahadwara). This may be made applicable to the Belur and Sravanabelagola temples first ". The Dewan and the present First Member of Council agree to the above proposal.

I therefore solicit the gracious approval of His Highness to permit Harijans to enter into the temples of Sri Chennakeshavaswamy at Belur and Sri Gomateswara at Sravanabelagola up to the limit to which Non-Hindus are permitted to go at present i.e., up to the Mahadwara.

Itu Anantaramaiya

Second Member of Council

Bangalore,
19th January 1939.

Submitted to His Highness.

I submit herewith a Final Note by the Second *Member of Council on the subject of* the admission of Harijans into the temple of Sri Chennakeshavaswami at Belur and the temple of Sri Gomateswara at Sravanabelagola, *for His Highness' gracious approval.*

Mirza M. Ismail

Bangalore,)
20th January 1939.) *Dewan.*

Record of Cases submitted for the Orders of
His Highness the Maharaja.

Subject.

Admission of Harijans into the temple of Sri Chennakeshavaswami at Belur and the temple of Sri Gomateswara at Sravanabelagola.

Chief Sec
Dy
25.1.39

No. 498

Order.

~~KRW~~
23/1/39

Dy
25.1.39

and Revenue
étariat.

SUBJECT:—

Admission of Mangan's writ in the Court of the Chamakeri Zamindari at Bela and the right of the Zamindar to collect rents at Sra in Belagola

(*)

31 All urgent or confidential files returned with His Highness' orders may in the absence of instructions or indications to the contrary, be ordinarily circulated to the Members of Council for perusal after the issue of orders.

33. The Secretaries concerned should see that orders in the cases referred to above are issued at once and that the files are returned immediately after to the Chief Secretary for circulation to the Members.

34. In all other cases, the files will first be circulated to the Members of Council at Headquarters and then sent to the Secretariat concerned for the issue of orders.

33

Circulated to Members of Council for perusal of His Highness' orders before/~~after~~ issue of orders. (*Vide* Rules 31, 33 and 34 of the Subsidiary Rules for the conduct of business of Council in the Manual of Council Rules and Procedure.)

Chief Secretary to Government.

34

Through the Secretary to Government,

General Department. 26/1/39

5965
26-1-39

FIRST MEMBER OF COUNCIL. 26/1/39

6835
25-1-39

SECOND MEMBER OF COUNCIL. 25

26.1.39

NOTE.—Contn. sheet

WD 01152—GPB—750—21-12-38

Serial No.

GENERAL SECRETARY. 28 JAN. 1939 2380.

38 Subd with a draft Gr.
Boy 28/1 28.1.39.
28/1 28.1.39.
Gen: Secy

39/ Draft for approval. In the last sentence of 7.N it is stated that non-Hindus are at present permitted to go up to the Mahadwara This I believe is no concession at all for the Mahadwara is the entrance of the temple up to which any one including a ~~Harijan~~ Harijan can go without let or hindrance. What is perhaps meant is that non-Hindus can enter the temple Through the Mahadwara and go up to the Dwajasthamba and this is in fact what is stated in the earlier part of 7.N. If this is the correct position the word 'Dwajasthamba' will be substituted for 'Mahadwara' at the end of the draft.

40 There is another point for consideration There is no regular temple at Sravana-belgola the Image stands in the

NOTE—Contn Sheet.

WD 0711 -GPB—30,000—2-9-53

summit of a rocky hill, and my recollection is that it is surrounded by a compound wall with an entrance gate. I do not remember to have seen any Dwajastamba inside this enclosure and opposite to the Image. In this case perhaps it has to be stated in the draft that non-Hindus will be allowed to climb up the sacred hill and go up to the Mahadwara in the entrance gate leading to the enclosure. It is for consideration whether this point should be made clear in the draft. Moreover this temple is not, strictly speaking, a Hindu temple, but a Jain temple

Second Member) 29.1.39

(4) The Agamiks of the HCs office were sent for and questioned as to what is meant by 'Mahadwara'. They stated that the whole temple is compared in the Agama Shastras, to a Purusha and that Mahadwara represents the foot of the Purusha. They further stated that Mahadwara is the outer gate (with the Gopuram) leading to the prakara (courtyard round the temple proper). Under the Members'

OFFICE SECOND MEMBER OF COUNCIL. 30 JAN 1939 No. 7011

(gms) Admission of Harijans into new temple at Oselur upto the limit to which non-Hindus are allowed.

General and Revenue Secretariat | File No. | of 193 . | [App. F. III—2

Serial No	
No. 46 9 (1-1-9	Instructions I have written to the D.C. Hassan to ascertain the practice with regard to non-Hindus at Sravana Belgola. His reply may be awaited
	1/2/39
2	From the Dy. Comr., Hassan dt. D. No. C. 3090/38 dated 8th Feby. 1939. forwards a sketch showing the point upto which non-Hindus are admitted in the case of the image of Sri Gomateswara at Sravana-belagola.
	(4) submitted for orders with reference to the orders of the Chief Secretary contained in para 4(b) of the notes.
	9.2.39 - (illegible) 9/2/39
	43 II Member 10.2.39
	Put up a draft order specifying the point upto which the right of entry is given. 11.2
	11/2/39

26 M 10.2.39.

SECOND MEMBER OF COUNCIL, 10 FEB. 1939 No. 7343.

NOTE—Contn Sheet

WD 0544—GPB—30,000—2-9-38

Secd. 3/3/39

Harijan contact with the temple

1023

Revd. File No. of 193 | General and Secretariat

457 Subd with a draft GS. X in accordance with the views of the Hon'ble Member contained in flag T and ~~non-acceptance to the~~ ~~Executive Director should~~ in the draft member's minute and the second member's order contained in para 63 of the notes. X - Page 60 of the notes also flag U

BR 4/3/39

(Rule handed over)

GENERAL SECRET 7 MAR. 1939 3157

46 7/3/39

Secy

47 Draft for appl.

2nd member) 9/3/39

8428

48 Appd as revised

49 Fair draft to be issued

50 This file has been delayed for too long which is very irregular & unsatisfactory

10.3

51

TYPING SECTION 20 MAR. 1939 GEN. & REV. SECTT.

Fair draft is subd is directed

11-3-39. 11-3-39

Secy 11.3

GENERAL SEC... 13 MAR. 19... 3290

52

2nd member) 13/3

53

SECOND MEMBER'S COUNCIL, 13 MAR 1939 No. 8538

Serial No. 3

1534 – 1603 & 23.3.1939

The M.C in M/L

Rev. Comm

Hon'ble Chief Secretary

Deputy Comm't of

D. C. Jaffna

permits only of Harijans with the temporal Belur and Sivanabelupalai upto the limit to which non-Hindus are at present allowed to enter them

WD 0544—GPB—30,000—2-9-38

File No. of 193 .

General and Secret

Admission of Harijans into the Belur and Sravanabelagola Temples.

Mr. T. RAMACHANDRA.- Sir, I beg to move.-

"That the demand for Rs.3,52,000 under "13. Muzrai Institutions" be reduced by Re.1 to recommend to Government to take steps to remove the ban on the admission of the Harijans from entering the Belur and Sravana-belagolla Temples even up to the extent to which non-Hindus are to-day permitted to go

Mr. PRESIDENT.- I rather sympathise with this. Is there any objection to this from the religious point of view, Mr. Srinivasiengar ?

Mr. M.N. SRINIVASIENGAR.- I supported ~~this~~ this proposition when it was brought before the House some ~~time~~ time ago.

Mr. PRESIDENT.- What does the Muzrai Commissioner say ?

Mr. K.V. ANANTARAMAN.- That is also my recommendation.

Mr. PRESIDENT.- This ~~is~~ is reasonable, I think.

Mr. Belur SRINIVASIENGAR.- You have spent large sums of money on this temple. Something more remains to be done so far as this temple is concerned. I have received a letter to-day from Belur. . . . . .

Mr. PRESIDENT.- So far as this temple

concerned, improvements will have to be carried out systematically for probably another century.

Mr. T. BALACHANDRA.- will the Government be pleased to pass orders early ?

Mr. S.P. RAJAGOPALACHARi.- I think there was some difference of opinion about it. The local dharmadarsis are not quite agreed about the matter. After we made th promise last time, the matter was referred to the local Committee. Opinion is divide Government will consider the matter.

The Cut motion was not pressed.

Listed promise made in the Budget Session of the Mysore Legislative council 1938 (June - July)

GENL. & REV. SECRETARIAT
16. JAN 1939
MUZRAI BRANCH

21. On the cut motion moved by Mr. T. RAMACHANDRA recommending the admission of Harijans into the Belur and Sravanabelagola temples up to the extent to which non-Hindus are permitted to go, Government stated that they would consider the matter.

(Cut Motion on Muzrai grant).

The above promise has been looked up already and the connected file has been submitted with a D.F.M. This will be placed in that file on its return with final orders, if any.

17/1/39

17/1/39

WD 0544—GPB—30,000—2-9-83

File No. of 193

General
Secre

7 FEB. 1939 I am in receipt of your D.O. letter No:4/G.S. dated the 1st instant calling for a sketchshowing the point up to which distinguished non-Hindu visitors are permitted to go up the Hill at Sravanabelagola to see the holy image of Sri Gomateswara on the summit of the Hill. A sketch showing the exact point with reference to the image and its surroundings is herein enclosed. It is ascertained from the Swamiji of the Jain Mutt that non-Hindu visitors are allowed to enter the open space known as Rajangana in front of the deity up to the stone barricade marked A B in the sketch, which is at a distance of 12' from the image.

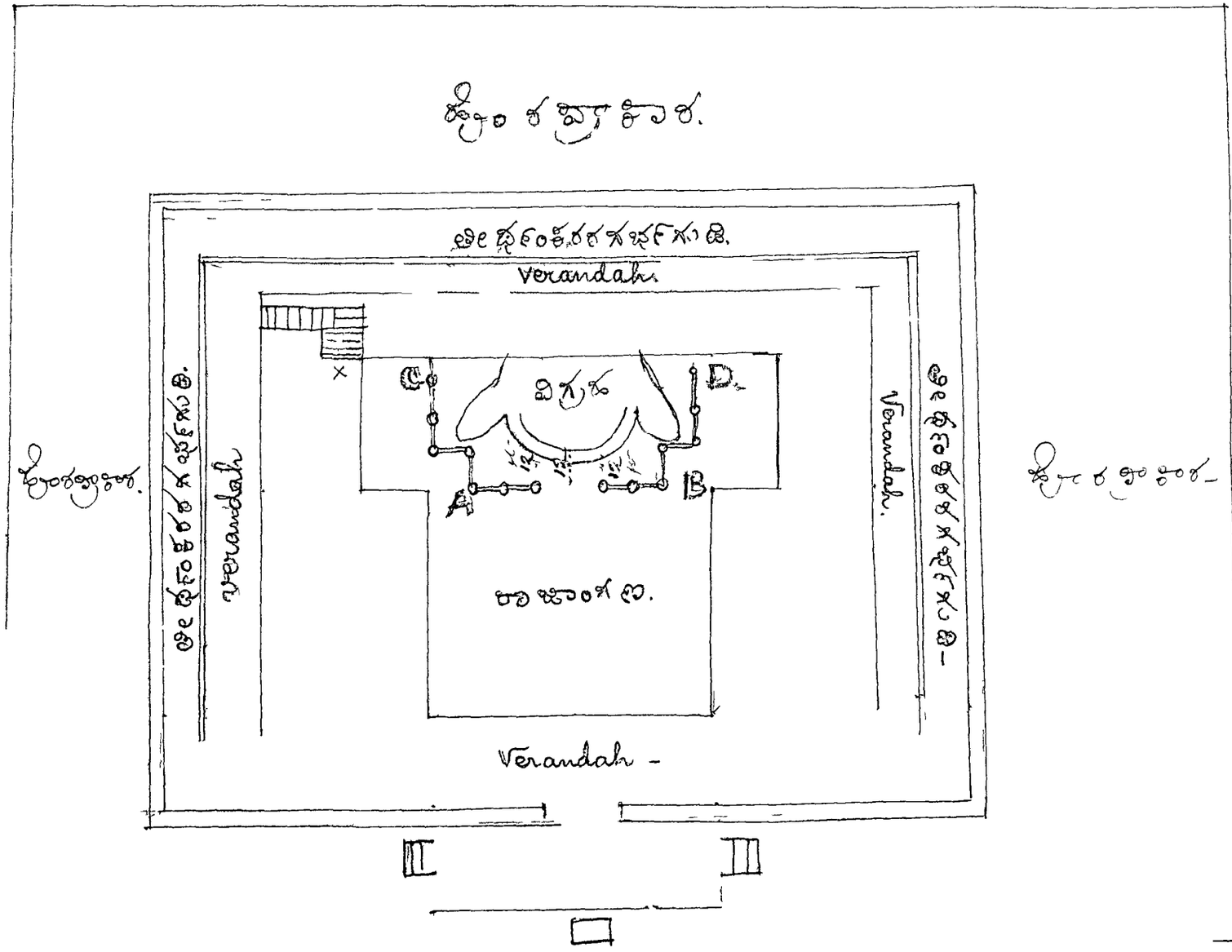
Yours sincerely,

Personal Assistant to the Dy. Com'r (absent from H.Q.)

K.Subba Rao, Esq., B.A.,
General Secretary to Government,
Bangalore.

as.

Sketch showing the temple of Sri-Gomateswara at Sravanabelagula / on the summit of the hill and the point to which people are allow



Allowance to (non-sannyasis) people upto A C D and also the Verandah

× = Steps to upstairs

D B A C. Stone parapet

Proceedings of the Government of
His Highness the Maharaja of Mysore.

Read:-

Correspondence ending with letter No A.C.44/35-36 dated 31st July 1936 from the Muzrai Commissioner in Mysore in the matter of permitting Harijans to enter the temple of Sri Chennakeshava Swami at Belur upto the limits to which non-Hindus are allowed.

ORDER thereon.--No. 1554-1603/294-38-3
Dated, 23. 3. 39

The question of admission of Harijans in Hindu temples, managed by the Muzrai Department, is being urged on Government for a few years past, both in the Representative Assembly and the Legislative Council. When the question came up for discussion before the Legislative Council in June 1938, it was ~~urged~~ presented that the ban on the admission of Harijans to the Belur and Sravanabelagola temples, at least to the ~~extent~~ point to which non-Hindus are allowed to go, should be removed. It was stated on behalf of Government that there was some difference of opinion in this respect, and that ~~Government~~ the matter would be examined ~~consider the matter~~.

2. So far as Sri Chennakeshavaswami temple at Belur is concerned, it is ascertained that non-Hindus are allowed inside the court-yard, so that they can have a view of the architectural work on the outside of the walls of the inner temple and that they are also permitted to go to the places where no worship is conducted. Harijans

are allowed, from time immemorial, for three days during the Jatra to go up to the Navaranga in the temple. The Agamikas of the Muzrai Commissioner's office who were consulted in the matter, have stated that it is nowhere said, that non-Hindus may enter temples consecrated according to the Agama Shastras and that Mahasamprokshane should be performed if Antyajas enter such temples. As a matter of mamool, however, non-Hindus are allowed to enter the outer enclosure in some Hindu temples and the devotees have generally acquiesced in this longstanding practice. The Muzrai Commissioner is therefore of the opinion that Harijans may be permitted to enter the temple at Belur upto the point to which non-Hindus are, at present, allowed.

3. As regards the ~~holy image~~ temple of Sri Gomateshvara on the Hill at Sravanabelogala, it is reported by the Deputy Commissioner, Hassan District, that non-Hindu visitors are allowed to enter the open space known as Rajangana, in front of the deity upto the stone barricade which is at a distance of 12 feet from the image.

4. The general trend of opinion regarding admission into the Sri Channakeshvaraswami temple at Belur and into the Sri Gomateshvara temple on the Sravanabelogola hill is, that Harijans should be accorded the same treatment as is shown to non-Hindus. Government are, therefore, pleased to direct that Harijans be permitted to enter Sri Cennakeshvaraswami temple at Belur and the Sri Gomateswara temple on the Sravanabelogola

hill upto the limit to which non-Hindus are permitted to go at present as indicated above.

Fair draft/ for
General Secretary to Government.

11 3 39.

To

The Kuzrai Commissioner in Mysore,
The Revenue Commissioner in Mysore,
The Heads of Departments,
The Chief Engineer of Mysore,
The Deputy Commissioner, Hassan Distric
The Deputy Commissioners of other Dists.
Press Table.

HKR.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE GOVERNMENT OF HIS HIGHNESS
THE MAHARAJA OF MYSORE.

Read :—

. 155 4E 1603/Mz 294-38-3

23 into

[illegible]
[illegible] should be [illegible]

[illegible]

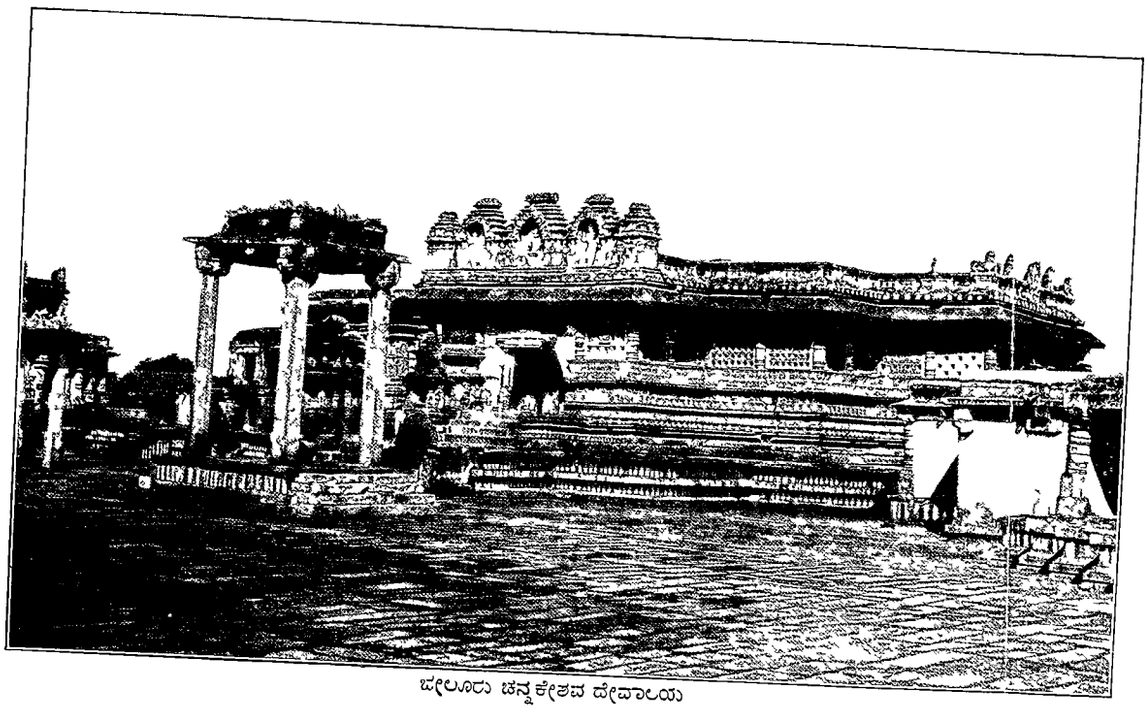
Mrs Sajan [illegible]

[illegible]

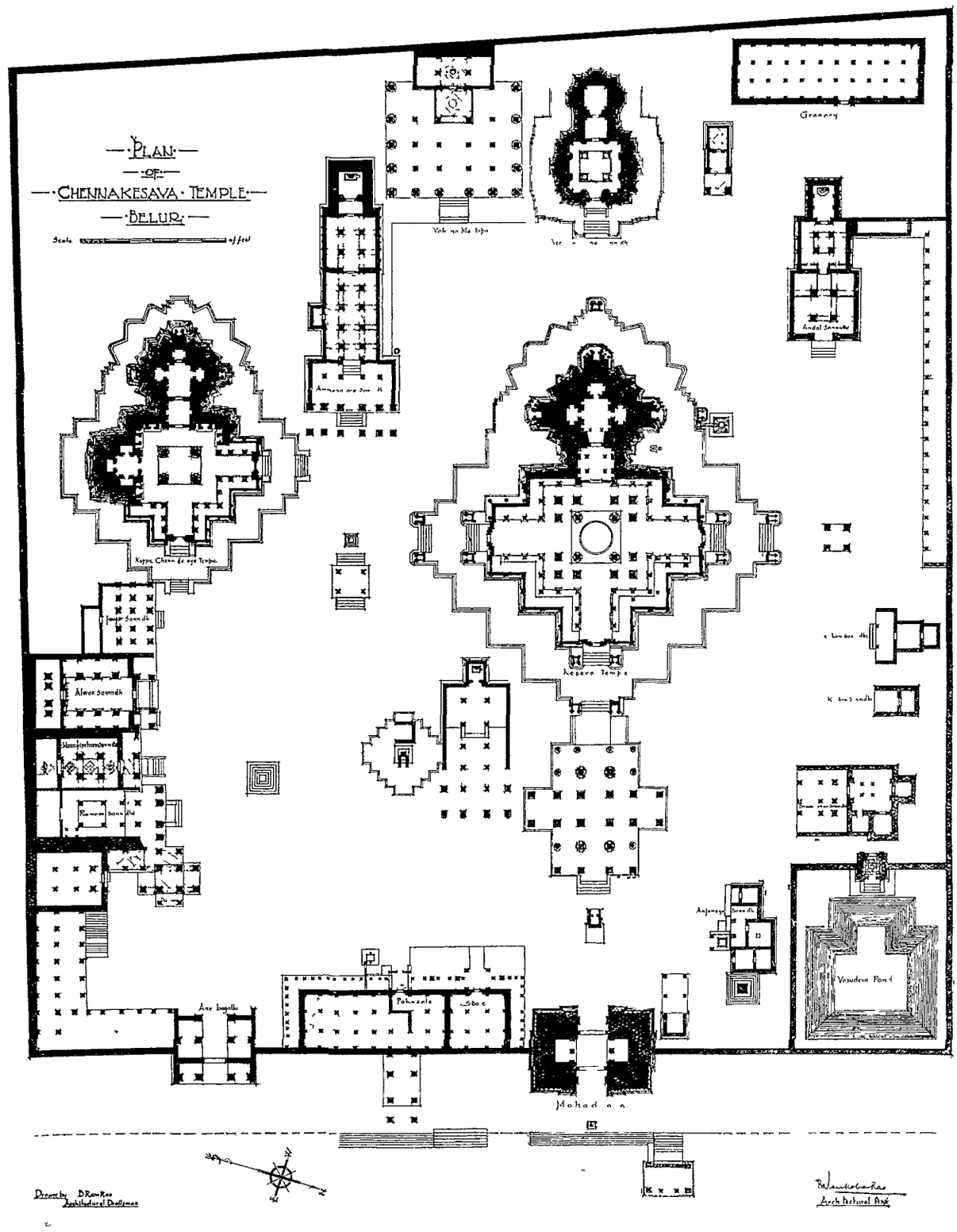
[illegible]

Press table

[illegible]



ಬೇಲೂರು ಚನ್ನಕೇಶವ ದೇವಾಲಯ


PLAN
OF
CHENNAKESAVA TEMPLE
BELUR
Scale
Granary
Andal Sannidhi
Kesava Temple
Vasudeva Pond
Drawn by D.Ram Rao
Assistant Draftsman
Architectural Asst.

S. O.

The Deputy Commissioners of other Districts
PRESS TARIFF.

S. O.

GOVERNMENT OF HIS HIGHNESS THE MAHARAJA OF MYSORE.

GENERAL AND REVENUE DEPARTMENTS.

G. O. No. 1554-1603—Muz. 294-38-3, dated the 20th—23rd March 1939.

Entry of Harijans.

Permits the —— into the temples at Belur and Sravanabelagola up to the limits to which non-Hindus are at present allowed.

READ—

Correspondence ending with letter No. H C 44—35-36, dated 31st July 1936, from the Muzrai Commissioner in Mysore, in the matter of permitting Harijans to enter the temple of Sri Chennakeshavaswami at Belur up to the limits to which non Hindus are allowed.

ORDER No. 1554-1603—MUZ. 294-38 3, DATED BANGALORE, THE 20TH—23RD MARCH 1939.

The question of admission of Harijans into Hindu temples, managed by the Muzrai Department, is being urged on Government for a few years past, both in the Representative Assembly and the Legislative Council. When the question came up for discussion before the Legislative Council in June 1938, it was represented that the ban on the admission of Harijans to the Belur and Sravanabelagola temples, at least to the point to which non-Hindus are allowed to go, should be removed. It was stated on behalf of Government that there was some difference of opinion in this respect and that the matter would be examined.

2. So far as Sri Chennakeshavaswami temple at Belur is concerned, it is ascertained that non-Hindus are allowed inside the courtyard, so that they can have a view of the architectural work on the outside of the walls of the inner temple and that they are also permitted to go to the places where no worship is conducted. Harijans are allowed, from time immemorial, for three days during the jatra to go up to the Navaranga in the temple. The Agamiks of the Muzrai Commissioner's Office who were consulted in the matter have stated that it is nowhere said that non-Hindus may enter temples consecrated according to the Agama Shastras and that Mahasamprokshane should be performed if Antyajas enter such temples. As a matter of *mamool*, however, non-Hindus are allowed to enter the outer enclosure in some Hindu temples and the devotees have generally acquiesced in this longstanding practice. The Muzrai Commissioner is therefore of the opinion that Harijans may be permitted to enter the temple at Belur up to the point to which non-Hindus are at present allowed.

3. As regards the temple of Sri Gomateswara on the Hill at Sravanabelagola, it is reported by the Deputy Commissioner, Hassan District, that non-Hindu visitors are allowed to enter the open space known as "Rajangana," in front of the deity up to the stone barricade which is at a distance of 12 feet from the image.

4. The general trend of opinion regarding admission into the Sri Chennakeshavaswami temple at Belur and into the Sri Gomateswara temple on the Sravanabelagola hill is that Harijans should be accorded the same treatment as is shown to non-Hindus. Government are, therefore, pleased to direct that Harijans be permitted to enter Sri Chennakeshavaswami temple at Belur (and the Sri Gomateswara temple on the Sravanabelagola hil up to the limits to which non-Hindus are permitted to go at present, as indicated above.

J. APPAJI GOWDA,
Secretary to Government,
General Department.

To —The Muzrai Commissioner in Mysore.
The Revenue Commissioner in Mysore.
The Heads of Departments
The Chief Engineer of Mysore
The Deputy Commissioner, Hassan District
The Deputy Commissioners of other Districts
PRESS TABLE

Exd.—C. K.

WD 1623—GPB—895—1-4 39

S. O.

GOVERNMENT OF HIS HIGHNESS THE MAHARAJA OF MYSORE.

GENERAL AND REVENUE DEPARTMENTS

G O. No 1554-1603—Muz. 294-38 3, dated the 20th—23rd March 1939.

Entry of Harijans

Permits the —— into the temples at Belur and Sravanbelgola up to the limits to which non Hindus are at present allowed

---

READ—

C[illegible] engineering athletic [illegible] No H C [illegible]—39 dated 31st July 1936 [illegible] to the Muzrai Commissioner and other matters connected [illegible] Harijans to enter the temple of Sri Chenna Keshavaswami at Belur up to the limit to which non Hindus [illegible]

ORDER No 1554-1603—Muz 294-38 3, DATED BANGALORE THE 20TH—23RD MARCH 1939

The question of admission of Harijans into Hindu temples managed by the Muzrai Department is being agitated upon Government for a few years past both in the Representative Assembly and the Legislative Council When the question came up for discussion before the Legislative Council on June 1938 it was represented that the bar on the admission of Harijans to the Belur and Sravanbelagola temples, at least to the point to which non Hindus are allowed to go should be removed It was stated on behalf of Government that there was some difference of opinion on this respect and that the matter would be examined

2 So far as Sri Chennakeshavaswami temple at Belur is concerned it is ascertained that non Hindus are allowed inside the compound so that they can have a view of the architectural work on the outside of the walls of the inner temple and that they are also permitted to enter one of the offices where no worship is conducted Harijans are allowed from time immemorial for three days during the jatra to go up to the Navaranga in the temple The Agamiks of the Muzrai Commissioner's Office who were consulted in the matter have stated that it is nowhere said that non Hindus may not enter temples consecrated according to the Agama Shastras and that Mahasamprokshana should be performed if Antyajas enter such temples As a matter of *fact* however non Hindus are allowed to enter the outer enclosure in some Hindu temples and the practice has generally acquiesced in this long standing practice The Muzrai Commissioner is therefore of the opinion that Harijans may be permitted to enter the temple at Belur up to the point to which non Hindus are at present allowed

3 As regards the temple of Sri Gomateswara on the Hill at Sravanbelgola it is reported by the Deputy Commissioner Hassan District, that non-Hindu visitors are allowed to enter the open space known as Rayagopura in front of the deity up to the stone barricade which is at a distance of 12 feet from the image

4 The general trend of opinion regarding admission into the Sri Chennakeshavaswami temple at Belur and into the Sri Gomateswara temple on the Sravanbelgola hill is that Harijans should be accorded the same treatment as is shown to non Hindus Government are, therefore pleased to direct that Harijans be permitted to enter Sri Chennakeshavaswami temple at Belur and the Sri Gomateswara temple on the Sravanbelgola hill up to the limits to which non-Hindus are permitted to go at present as indicated above

J APPAJI GOWDA
Secretary to Government
General Department

To —The Muzrai Commissioner in Mysore
The Revenue Commissioner in Mysore
The Heads of Departments
The Chief Engineer of Mysore
The Deputy Commissioner Hassan District
The Deputy Commissioners of other Districts
PRESS TABLE

Exd -C K.

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